

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

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FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2371

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E.O. 11652 : N/A

TAGS : OEXC, NI

SUBJ : NOMINATIONSFOR FY-74 EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL
PROGRAMS

REF : STATE A-997

1. EMBASSY NOMINATES MISS ALERO OKOTIE-EBOH, PRODUCER AND
DIRECTOR NBC-TV AND MISS GLORIA AINA, PRODUCER, ALSO NBC-TV
FOR ET INTERNSHIPS FOR JUNIOR AND MID-LEVEL PROFESSIONALS. FUNDING
FOR THE SECOND NOMINEE TO BE CHARGED EMBASSY'S CU ACCOUNT.

2. BIODATAS FOLLOW:

A. MS OKOTIE-EBOH

NAME : ALERO OKOTIE-EBOH

PRESENT POSITION : PRODUCER/DIRECTOR/SCRIPT WRITER/PRESENTER

PAST POSITION : UNKNOWN

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH : [Sensitive Information Removed Per NARA 30 Aug 2013], SAPELE, MIDWESTERN STATE

PRESENT CITIZENSHIP : NIGERIAN

PREVIOUS CITIZENSHIP : NONE

TRAVEL TO US : NONE

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OTHER COUNTRIES : GREAT BRITAIN 1959-1967- STUDENT
FRANCE 1969-70- STUDENT
GERMANY, ITALY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA,
SIERRA LEONE, LIBERIA, GHANA (TOURIST-
VARIOUS TIMES BETWEEN 1959-1970)

PREVIOUS USG GRANT : NONE

ESCORT SERVICES : NOT REQUIRED

VISA ELIGIBILITY : NAMECHECK SATISFACTORY, VISA ELIGIBLE.

REASON FOR NOMINATION: IN ADDITION HER OTHER DUTIES AT NBC-TV,
MS OKOTIE-BOH PRODUCES OWN WEEKLY
PROGRAM, "YOUTH FORUM". SHE CREATED THE
PROGRAM-- HER FIRST ATTEMPT SUCH A SHOW--
HANDLES EVERY ASPECT ITS PRODUCTION, AND
ACTS AS HOSTESS. "YOUTH FORUM" HAS
CONTINUALLY IMPROVED SINCE IT BEGAN.
USIS REGULARLY PLACES FILM CLIPS AND
ARRANGES FOR PEOPLE TO BE INTERVIEWED
ON PROGRAM.

OBJECTIVE OF US VISIT: MS OKOTIE-BOH IS THE FASTEST RISING
YOUNG PRODUCER AT NBC-TV. ATTRACTIVE
AND INTELLIGENT, EMBASSY BELIEVES SHE
WOULD WELL UTILIZE OPPORTUNITY GIVEN TO
STUDY BROADCASTING IN THE U.S. IT IS
EXPECTED THAT SHE WILL PLAY INCREASINGLY
IMPORTANT ROLE AT NBC-TV IN FUTURE AND
THAT AWARDED HER A GRANT AT THIS TIME
WHEN SHE CAN MOST PROFIT FROM IT WILL
HELP ENSURE FUTURE GOOD RELATIONS.

NOMINEE AVAILABLE FOR INTERNSHIP PERIOD

B. MS GLORIA AINA

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NAME : GLORIA AINA

PRESENT POSITION : TV PRODUCER

PAST POSITION : RADIO ANNOUNCER (GUYANA)

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: [Sensitive Information Removed Per NARA 30 Aug 2013], GEORGETOWN, GUYANA

PRESENT CITIZENSHIP : NIGERIAN

PREVIOUS CITIZENSHIP : GUYANESE

TRAVEL TO US : 1968-MID1969, STUDENT

OTHER COUNTRIES : CANADA, 1965-67-ACCOMPANIED HUSBAND
LONDON 1962-64-STUDENT
GERMANY, BRAZIL, DUTCH GUYANA(TOURIST)-
VARIOUS TIMES BETWEEN 1962-64

PREVIOUS USG GRANT : NONE

ESCORT SERVICES : NOT REQUIRED

VISA ELIGIBILITY : NAMECHECK SATISFACTORY, VISA ELIGIBLE

REASON FOR NOMINATION: INADDITION TO PRODUCING HER OWN PROGRAM,
"FEMININE FANCIES," MS. AINA IS NOW
CO-PRODUCER OF THE WEEKLY NIGHT DISCUSSION
PROGRAM "VIEWPOINT", A NEW ASSIGNMENT
WHICH IS POTENTIALLY MORE IMPORTANT.
BESIDES HER TELEVISION AND RADIO
EXPERIENCE, SHE ALSO WRITES FOR MAGAZINES
AND NEWSPAPERS SUCH AS THE DAILY TIMES.
MS AINA HAS ALWAYS COOPERATED IN
ARRANGING FOR HER PROGRAM INTERVIEWS
FOR VISITING AMERICANS, SUCH AS JUDITH
CHADWICK OF THE RECENT EDUCATIONAL
SYSTEMS TRADE MISSION.

OBJECTIVE OF US VISIT: UP TO THE PRESENT OUR ATTEMPTS TO
ARRANGE AN AMERICAN INPUT IN DISCUSSION

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PROGRAMS SUCH AS "VIEWPOINT", HAS
RESULTED IN PRACITICALLY NIL. NOW THAT
MS AINA IS CO-PRODUCING THE SHOW, WE
FEEL THAT THE SITUATION WILL IMPROVE, AND
THAT AMERICAN VIEWS MAY BE MORE
FREQUENTLY HEARD. THE INTERNSHIP
SHOULD GIVE HER NEEDED ADDITIONAL
EXPOSURE TO AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE AS WELL
AS TELEVISION PRODUCTION TECHNIQUES.
SHOULD RESULT IN EVEN GREATER
RECEPTIVITY TO AMERICAN PARTICIPATION
ON "VIEWPOINT."

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